

The Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
Amherst, New Hampshire



*"It is the responsibility of every adult... to make sure that children hear what we have learned from the lessons of life and to hear over and over that we love them and that they are not alone."*

— Marian Wright Edelman

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
Amherst, New Hampshire

June 4, 2023

Children's Sunday

10:00 a.m.

## GATHERING CHIMES

*Let us be gathered in silence so that we may prepare to worship.*

## GREETING AND NOTICES OF PARISH LIFE

## PRELUDE

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

John Hughes/  
Don Hustad

## INTROIT

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

One: God made the heavens and the earth.

**Many: And called them Good!**

One: God made the fish and the birds

**Many: And called them Good!**

One: God made the stars and the sun

**Many: And called them Good!**

One: God made the roads and the schools

**Many: And called them Good!**

One: God made ice cream and broccoli

**Many: And called them Good!**

One: God made you and me

**Many: And calls us Good!**

One: God made everything everywhere and calls it all Good.

Let us worship our Creator together.

## \*HYMN

*All Creatures of Our God and King*

No. 455

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

*The congregation may be seated.*

Creator God, you made the birds and the trees, the bugs and the seas, and love them all equally. You made each and every one of us, and know us completely. You are with us in joy and in sorrow, and give us great hope for tomorrow. So we gather here on Sunday morning, to pray and sing and give you glory. Be with us in this time of worship, and in everything within our hearts that is stirred up, now and forever more. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who taught us pray saying:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

### \*GLORIA PATRI

Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and Holy Spirit, One;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.

## THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

### INVITATION

#### Confirmand

Adelia Curtis

Oriannah Dart

Maya Gascoyne

Phoebe Handwerk

Elizabeth Kennedy

#### Mentor

Shirley Curtis

Sally Bowkett

Winter Gascoyne

Kathleen Cashins

Alison Wysor

### QUESTIONS OF COMMITMENT

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (compiled from the reflections of the confirmands)

We believe in you, O God,  
you created the world around us,  
you guide us, teach us, and nudge us,  
you listen to us, help us, and forgive us,  
you are always with us,  
with your arms wide open.

Through your Spirit,  
you help us to make good decisions,  
you give us the courage to do scary things,  
you keep us going in the darkest moments,  
you come to us in music, in creativity, in silence,  
in things that we love.

You sent us Jesus,  
to help us to grow closer to you,  
so that we might better understand you,  
and you might better understand us,  
to teach us how to live in community,  
to teach us that you love us no matter what.

Through the church,  
we meet people who are different than us,  
we help people who are in need,  
we find peace and connect with you, our God,  
we learn to live and love like Jesus,  
even if we have different beliefs about Jesus.

Holy One, you promise to be with us  
when we are happy or struggling,  
you are the light at the end of the tunnel,  
giving us strength when things are hard,  
telling us where to turn,  
guiding us in unexpected ways.

You are our Creator, our Teacher, our Guide,  
and we thank you for all that you are and all that you give.  
Amen.

#### LAYING ON OF HANDS

#### CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT AND WELCOME (in unison)

We welcome you with joy in the common mission and life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as together we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of Jesus' ministry in the world.

#### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION and THANKSGIVING

#### GREETING AND PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

#### \*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of God be with you. AND ALSO WITH YOU.

#### TEACHER APPRECIATION

#### ANTHEM

*A Jubilant Celebration*  
Sue Werst, flute  
Chancel Choir

Joseph M. Martin

## THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

## Psalm 8

O Lord, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory above the heavens.  
Out of the mouths of babes and infants  
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,  
to silence the enemy and the avenger.  
When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established;  
what are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
mortals that you care for them?  
Yet you have made them a little lower than God,  
and crowned them with glory and honour.  
You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet,  
all sheep and oxen,  
and also the beasts of the field,  
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.  
O Lord, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

\*HYMN

*Kum ba Yah*

No. 338

## JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER

*If you have a prayer to share, fill out a prayer card in your pew. Cards will be collected by one of the pastors during the hymn after the sermon, and will be shared during Joys and Concerns.*

## CHORAL RESPONSE

## CALL TO THE OFFERING

Third Grade Bible Reading

## OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Morning Prayer*  
Emily Bolin, piano

Tchaikovsky

## \*DOXOLOGY (Tune: *From All That Dwell Below the Skies*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Amen.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

*This is a repeat after me prayer:*

**One:** Almighty God,

**Many:** **Almighty God,**

**One:** You love and care for all of creation,

**Many:** **You love and care for all of creation,**

**One:** from the smallest microbe

**Many:** **from the smallest microbe**

**One:** to the largest Sequoia Tree.

**Many:** **to the largest Sequoia Tree.**

**One:** Take our offering,

**Many:** **Take our offering,**

**One:** And use it to spread your blessings,

**Many:** **And use it to spread your blessings,**

**One:** Throughout the world.

**Many:** **Throughout the world.**

**One:** Amen.

**Many:** **Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

*This Little Light of Mine*

side page

**\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD**

**\*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE**

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Go Therefore*

Robert F. Smith

*(\*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.)*

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service  
obtained from One License with license #A-731944.*

## HYMN—This Little Light of Mine

# THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AMHERST, NH, UCC



**A Welcoming, Open and Affirming Congregation  
of the United Church of Christ**



***"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here."***

*We, the members of The Congregational Church of Amherst, New Hampshire, United Church of Christ, believe God's Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ call us to love all our neighbors as we would want to be loved. We are called to be as one body, seeking to walk together in the full life and ministry of our church.*

*We welcome each individual as a child of God. As covenant members of Christ's church, we celebrate God's love for people of all races and ethnic backgrounds, all mental and physical abilities, all socioeconomic backgrounds, all sexual orientations, all gender identities and gender expressions, and all of the other diverse attributes woven into the fabric of humankind.*

*With God's grace, we invite all to share in the life and leadership, ministry and fellowship, worship and sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of our church.*

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Our membership is open to all those who choose to walk with us in our witness. Please speak with any of our deacons or pastors should you have any questions regarding our church or our membership.

## Worship Notes:

- Our church nursery is open, but not currently staffed, and is available when parents with young children feel the need for a quiet, safe space to go to during worship. A monitor is available to watch and listen to the service.
- Joys and Concerns may be written on the cards found in the pews. You are also welcome to submit your prayer request through our website in advance of the worship service.
- Please remember to wear your nametag each Sunday, so that we may all greet our neighbors. If you do not have a permanent nametag, temporary nametags may be found inside the friendship registers. If you are in need of a new, permanent nametag, please see one of the deacons.
- Please join us in the community room for a time of fellowship after the worship service. Coffee and beverages are offered.
- In the event of an emergency, please remain seated until instructions have been given. An emergency plan is in place for the children in the church school.

The church office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 to 1:00 p.m., and available Monday through Friday by telephone 673-3231 and by email [info@ccamherst.org](mailto:info@ccamherst.org). Please feel free to leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as we can. Visit our church's website at [www.ccamherst.org](http://www.ccamherst.org), and follow us on Facebook.com/ccamherst and Instagram.com/ccamherstnh.

***Grounded in God's Love—Serving Neighbors Near and Far—Welcoming to All***



## PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

Members and Friends of The Congregational Church

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott

Rev. Katherine R. Kennedy

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

Mark Baddeley, Fran Baddeley

Doug Topliffe

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Deacons in Charge

Videographer

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are given by Susan Dudley Holden, in loving memory of her nephew William Thomas Dudley, who passed March 24, 2023 at the age of fifty-four. A Celebration of Life for William was held in Raleigh, NC on Saturday, June 3.

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL:** Join us today after worship for our annual ice cream social, when we'll celebrate the end of the church school year. The Fellowship Team welcomes donations to offset costs, \$3 for individuals / \$10 for families.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is August 14th-18th!** For more information regarding registration, volunteering, or donating with our Amazon Wish List, see the Church School Website: [www.ccamherst.org/church-school](http://www.ccamherst.org/church-school)

**GARDEN FLOWERS:** Fresh cut garden flowers are lovely for simple altar arrangements during the summer. If you can provide a bouquet of cut flowers, or can simply contribute flowers for a bouquet, please contact Sue Stout or Andrea in the church office to schedule a Sunday. Thank you for sharing your flower gardens!

**JULY 4 HELP WANTED:** The Fellowship Team is looking for volunteers to donate unfrosted cookies, 2 per baggie. We especially need volunteers on July 4, 9:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. to pass out cookies and brochures. Anyone who could assist with face painting and tattoos, especially youth, would be welcome! Please email Carol Landon at [carollandon@gmail.com](mailto:carollandon@gmail.com) or text or call at 603-494-7734, or Sue Werst at [sue.w.0323@gmail.com](mailto:sue.w.0323@gmail.com).

### Financial Summary

(as of April 30, 2023)

	YTD	YTD	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$377,284	\$361,724	\$15,560
Expenses	\$382,472	\$385,593	\$ (3,121)
Net Income	\$ (5,187)	\$ (23,869)	\$18,682

*Numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole dollar; as such, some columns may not appear to total correctly.*

*We hope you are finding this information helpful. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to anyone on the Finance Team: Keith Lammers, Paul Spiess (Treasurer), Doug Topliffe, Todd Whitney and Tim Wiegand.*

## MAD LIBS Prayer

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,  
(Your name for God)

Thank you for all of the wonderful things in the world,

like \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.  
(wonderful noun) (wonderful noun)

You are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Adjective for God) (another Godly adjective)

and I feel \_\_\_\_\_ when I talk to you about what's going on in my life and in the world.  
(emotion)

Earlier this week, \_\_\_\_\_ happened and I feel \_\_\_\_\_.  
(an event) (emotion)

about it. You understand, right? While we're talking, I'd love to tell you about

\_\_\_\_\_. It's really \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Another noteworthy event, big or small) (adjective)

Will you grant me \_\_\_\_\_ as I \_\_\_\_\_ with this?  
(state of mind-- peace, hope, understanding). (Verb - wrestle, sit, deal)

No matter what, I know that to you, I am \_\_\_\_\_.  
(kind adjective-- beloved/cherished/wonderfully made.)

Thanks, I needed to be reminded of that truth.

You are \_\_\_\_\_, and I lift up this prayer in Your name.  
(A description you like for God)

Amen.



*Sunday, June 4, 2023*

## **Our Church Calendar**

**May 15—21, 2023**

Some events are taking place virtually.  
Links are sent out directly by email, and a list of  
recurring meetings with their links can be found  
in the member section of our website.

Today	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship & Ice Cream Social
	11:30 a.m.	Small Group Ministry
	2:00 p.m.	Middle High Youth Group
	4:00 p.m.	Senior High Youth Group
Monday	10:00 a.m.	WA Workshop
Tuesday	1:30 p.m.	Small Group Ministry
	4:30 p.m.	Church Council
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Congregational Care
	4:00 p.m.	Communications Team
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir